

Tony Monaco



Tony Monaco is one of the hot new breed of Hammond B3 organ players making the jazz scene these days. Influenced by Jimmy Smith, Hank Marr, Don Patterson, Jimmy McGriff, and Richard "Groove" Holmes, Tony is now taking the B3 to new exciting dimensions. Tony's fourth album "A New Generation: Paesanos on the New B3", features the brand new Hammond B3 and special guests The Joey DeFrancesco

Trio. Festivals, concert halls and jazz clubs all agree – Tony Monaco knows how to excite a crowd.

Tony Monaco has been playing music since he was eight years old. When he was twelve, he was given a Jimmy Smith album and instantly knew that jazz organ was his calling. He was influenced by hometown organists such as Hank Marr and Don Patterson. On Tony's sixteenth birthday, he received a return phone call from Jimmy Smith. Jimmy Smith continued to give Tony Jazz Organ secrets over the phone.

In April 2000, Tony met Jazz Organ phenomenon Joey DeFrancesco while Joey was playing in Columbus, Ohio. The two of them became instant friends. Joey recognized Tony's talents right away and offered to produce a CD for him. They recorded *Burnin Grooves* with Byron Landham on drums and Paul Bollenback on guitar. He also recorded a few tracks with Joey, who was on either piano or trumpet. Tony's recording "Burnin Grooves" sparked international attention.

Tony's second national release *Master Chops T* (Summit – September 2001), was featured in the March 2002 issue of Jazz Times with a full page article, the June Issue of Jazziz, and the August Issue of Downbeat. *Master Chops T* climbed into the top 10 on the Jazz radio charts.

Tony's 3rd national release *Intimately Live at the 501* (Summit - October 2002) climbed the Jazz Radio Charts to # 15. *East to West* (Chicken Coup Records – March 2006) spent eighteen weeks on the Jazz Radio Charts with a full two months in the Top 10.

Without a doubt, people are listening and grooving to the exciting organ riffs of Tony Monaco.

"Fans expecting a duel between organists Tony Monaco and Joey DeFrancesco will find this album more of a love feast.

Everyone cooks expertly on this soulful trip home."

Owen Cordle

Jazz Times

December 2003

"Duelling jazz organists has been a popular and recurring theme over the years, but it surely couldn't sizzle more than this. A New Generation features two of the best from the "new generation," Joey DeFrancesco and Tony Monaco, and they spur each other until the music absolutely burns!"

Mark Vail

Keyboard Magazine

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